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International Court of Justice

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OFFICE OF CHIEF OF COUNSEL FOR WAR CRIMES

EVIDENCE DIVISION

Date: 19 July 1948

I certify that Document Number 1689-PS was introduced into evidence as Exhibit Number USA-286 in the Trial by the International Tribunal of Hermann GOERING, et al, which commenced on 20 November 1945, and that the attached photostat is a true and correct copy of the original.

Fred Niebergall

FRED NIEBERGALL
Chief, Document Control Branch

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I hereby certify that the annexed document 1689-PS No. USA - 286 is a photostat of an original document submitted in evidence by the United States Prosecution under this number. The original document has been withdrawn in accordance with Rule 10 of the International Military Tribunal, and to the best of my knowledge and belief is to be held at the National Archives, Washington D.C. .

Nuremberg, 15 July 1948

Paul Joosten

PAUL A. JOOSTEN

General Secretary
International Military
Tribunal

with often as many as sixty names of those who have died or committed suicide during the week.

During 1942, under heavy penalties, it had become forbidden for Jews:

To move from one house to another or to leave Greater Prague, except in case of "emigration";

To enter or even pass certain streets and squares in Prague and other towns; to enter or to pass certain other streets (the main lines of communication between the different districts of Prague) from 3 p.m. on Saturdays to 8 a.m. on Mondays; to enter parks, river-banks, woods, bathing pools, public baths, barbers' shops, and fairs; to visit museums, libraries, theaters, cinemas;

To use railways, trolleys, buses, taxis, public telephone booths (a Czech allowing a Jew to speak on his telephone or receiving forwarding telephone messages for a Jew is liable to prison);

To buy fruit, vegetables, mushrooms, wines and liquors, tobacco and cigarettes, sweets, jams, fish, poultry, game and all unrationed foodstuffs (anyone selling such goods to Jews faces prison);

To have washing done by laundries and clothing cleaned or dyed (Czech firms contravening are threatened with having their premises shut);

To hoist the Czech flag or to wear Czech colors.

On December 2, 1942, a special order issued by the "Protectorate" Ministry of Agriculture excluded the Jews not only from buying unrationed food but even from receiving them as a gift from any private citizen. The same order has left it to the discretion of the Ministry of Agriculture to exclude Jews entirely or partially from obtaining rationed food, thus exposing the remnants of the Jewish community to death by starvation.

One hour on five days a week has been allowed for shopping, this hour being fixed at a time when after, first the Germans and then the Czechs, have done their buying, the small stocks are mostly exhausted. A special hour (from 8 to 9 a.m.) is allotted to Jews for calling at Government and other offices, courts, savings banks, post offices, and for entering the crematorium. After the closing of all parks to Jews, they began to meet, walk, or let their children breathe some fresh air at Jewish cemeteries; but the Germans soon ordered the cemeteries to be closed except for burials. Not until April, 1942, were some of the cemeteries reopened for a few hours during the day-time.

In the autumn of 1941, Heydrich ordered all synagogues to be closed because "they had served as meeting-places for aggressive Jewish elements." Many synagogues were demolished, others transformed into marketing halls or into auction halls for the sale of confiscated Jewish furniture and household goods.

When they invaded Czechoslovakia the Germans decided to carry out what Hitler had by then only partly succeeded in doing with the Jews in Germany proper—to make them "leave the country as soon as possible and as poor and shabby as they had once come here." Three hundred Czech Jews were to leave daily. But there was practically no place for them to go. Such European countries as were free, as well as countries overseas, had closed their doors to Jewish refugees; Palestine itself was less accessible than ever. It took months before some few fortunate people could get an immigration or a landing permit. Meanwhile war broke out and the Czech Jews lost their last chance of finding refuge. About 10,000 Jews managed to get out of Bohemia and Moravia, many only as far as some neighboring country, where they were soon again in the grip of the Germans.

After the occupation of Poland, Hitler designated Lublin and its immediate district as a reservation in which all Jews from the occupied countries were to be concentrated. Some 2,000 Jews of Moravska Ostrava were the first to be sent there. A year later, at the end of October, 1941, 48,000 Czech Jews were already picked out for deportation. Men between the ages of sixteen to fifty were sent to labor camps, while their womenfolk and children were taken to special settlements in Eastern Poland.

At the end of June, 1942, deportation to Poland began on a large scale. The Gestapo was instructed to prepare by every Monday and Thursday contingents of a thousand Jews each. Those to leave were given a day or two's notice. The Nazi records of the Jewish registration were out of date and it often happened that the call-up cards were addressed to persons who had died years ago, had left the country or had already been deported. In such cases the daily quota of a thousand was made up by people simply picked up from the streets or dragged from their beds at night-time. The Gestapo took a delight in so selecting the deportees that families were split, wives separated from their husbands, and even small children from their mothers. Those left at home were never allowed to bid farewell to their relatives or friends. But sometimes, on early summer mornings, their Czech friends could watch those gloomy processions of the outlawed marching to the railway station and passing for the last time through the streets of Prague.

At the end of 1942, no Jewish life in Bohemia and Moravia was left. Out of the 90,000 Czech Jews more than 72,000 have been deported. All the provincial towns in Bohemia which once had large Jewish communities have been cleared (the last ones were Tabor, Pelhrimov and Mlada Boleslav whence the remaining Jews were expelled in February, 1943). The rest of the Czech Jews concentrated in Prague and two Moravian towns were facing deportation

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Hundreds of Jews (the Slovak officials alleged it to be 7,000) fled across the frontier to Hungary to escape deportation. They were rounded up there and either interned or sent back to the frontier. Sometimes the Slovak authorities took them back and after a short period of internment transported them to Poland. Sometimes these authorities refused to readmit the fugitives on the grounds that by leaving Slovakia these Jews had lost their citizenship, and they were put by the Hungarians into concentration camps.

Although the deportations went on, leaving, at the end of August, 1942, only some 20,000 Jews in Slovakia, most of them in ghettos, the Nazis were still not satisfied. At the end of November, 1942, a special committee was set up to consider the final expulsion of the remainder of the Jews. By then, out of the 95,000 Jews, 76,000 had already been deported.

Of the 163,346 catastral yokes (about 230,000 acres) of arable land which had been in Jewish possession and confiscated, 57,640 yokes were—according to a statement by the President of the Slovak State Land Office (quoted by the *Frankfurter Zeitung* on January 29, 1943)—transferred to "Aryan" hands by sale and about 40,000 yokes leased out to Christian tenants up to the end of 1942. So far the rest is in the possession of the State.

Out of 12,000 Jewish enterprises 10,125 have been liquidated and the rest given to non-Jews. All Jewish house property, representing a value of more than 1,200 million crowns (about £8,500,000) has remained in State ownership. The Minister of Finance has been authorized to sell this property to provide means to repay the 700 million crowns (£5,000,000) claimed by Germany as the cost of deporting the Slovak Jews and providing settlements in Eastern Poland for them. The total Jewish property in Slovakia confiscated by the State, after the deduction of 1,000 million crowns indebtedness, has been officially estimated at 3,000 million crowns (£21,143,000).

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Filed Dec. 14, 1945 "Czechoslovakia Fights Back"

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